

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 and 33-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The examiner is requested to reconsider this rejection.

The examiner states that the "specification supports "an integral connector structure" not "an integral electrical connector structure ... the specification does not support that the integral connector structure is electrically connected to the electrical circuitry ... [t]herefore, the integral electrical connector structure is incapable of electrically connecting the electrical circuitry to an electronic component."

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection as follows.

Applicants submit that the Office Action improperly rejected claims 1-20 and 33-35 under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, because the Office Action does not set forth express findings of fact which support the lack of written description conclusion. See MPEP § 2163.04(I). According to MPEP §2163.04(I), the Examiner must:

- (A) Identify the claim limitation(s) at issue; and
- (B) Establish a *prima facie* case by providing reasons why a person skilled in the art at the time the application was filed would not have recognized that the inventor was in possession of the invention as claimed in view of the disclosure of the application as filed.

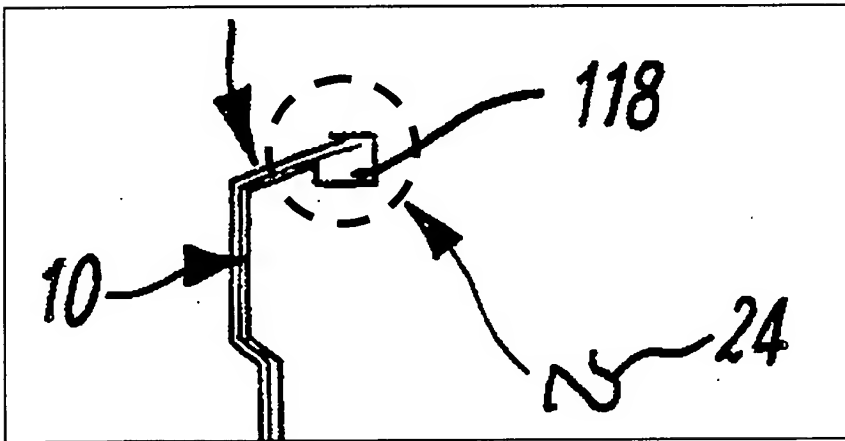
In the instant case, the Office Action has not satisfied element B of the requirement set forth in MPEP § 2163.04(I). In particular, the Office Action merely asserted that the specification does not disclose an integral electrical connector structure and that the integral electrical connector structure is electrically connected to the electrical circuitry. In other words, the Office Action has merely presented an insufficient conclusory statement to improperly reject claims 1-20 and 33-35.

Applicants submit that, an integral connector structure **for connecting the electrical circuitry to an electronic component** is described throughout the specification (see Fig. 5, page 1, lines 17-18, 21-23. Also, connectors (or connector structures) provided to allow **electrical connection** between the first and second covers is described (see Fig. 6, page 6, lines 22-28).

Furthermore, the Office Action does not provide reasons why a person skilled in the art would not have recognized that the inventor was in possession of the invention as claimed in view of the disclosure as filed. The Office Action cannot provide such reasons, because the specification clearly states for example, that there is shown "a schematic representation of the assembly of electronic components 36, 38 into the cover 22. The components 36, 38 are suitable components for use in a mobile phone, and the person skilled in the art would immediately realise the types of components that would be suitable. The component 36 comprises a first connecting member 36A for insertion into one of the connecting structure 118. The second component 38 comprises a second connecting member

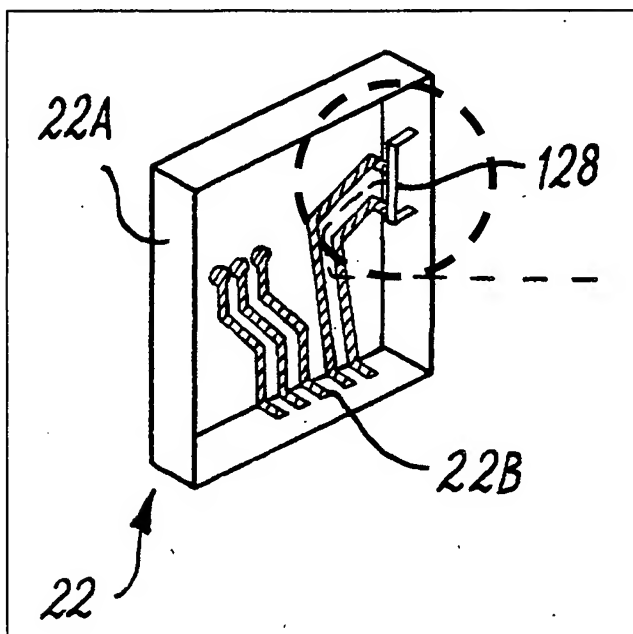
38A for insertion into the other of the connecting structures 118" (see page 5, lines 24-31). Thus, as person skilled in the art would understand that the electrical component 36 is electrically connected to the circuitry element 10 by the electrical connection between the connecting member 36A and the integral electrical connecting structure 118 (see Fig. 5). Further, one skilled in the art would recognize that the connector 118 is configured to removably receive the connecting member 36A (see Fig. 5, page 2, lines 32-33, page 3, lines 1-2).

Additionally, the figures clearly show that the circuitry is connected to the connector structure. For example, a portion of Fig. 1 is shown below wherein it can clearly be seen that the circuitry element 10 extends into the connector structure 118 (see circled portion).

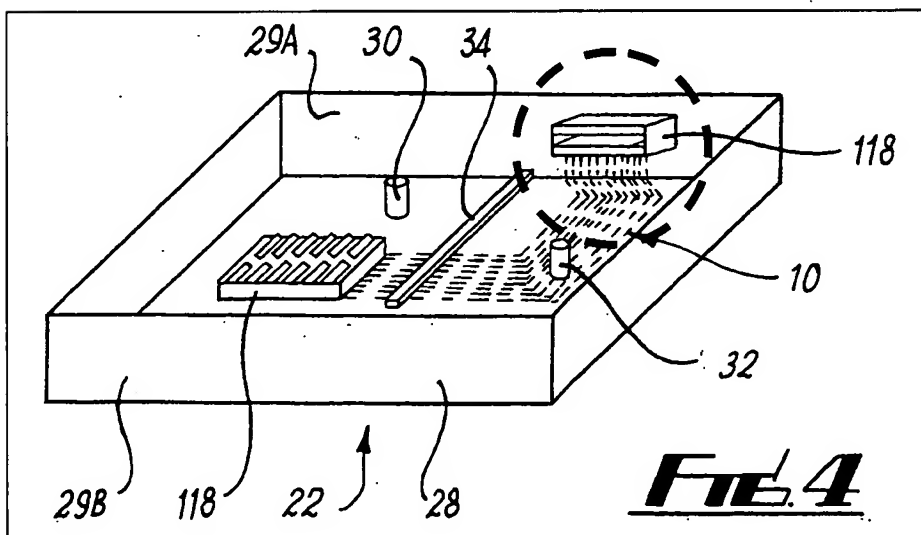


For example, a portion of Fig. 2 is shown below wherein it can clearly be seen that the line pattern of the second part 22B

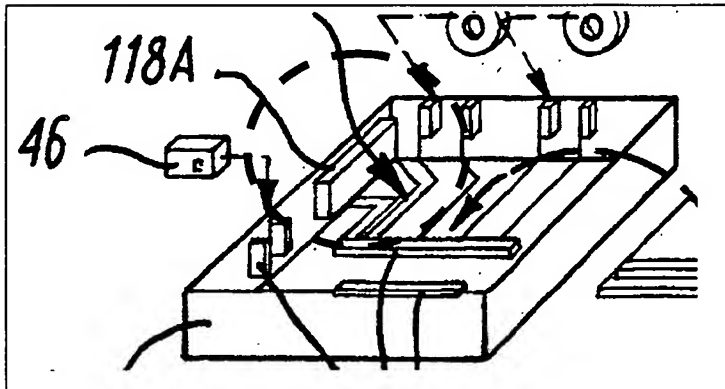
(forming the circuitry) is connected to the connector structure 128 (see circled portion).



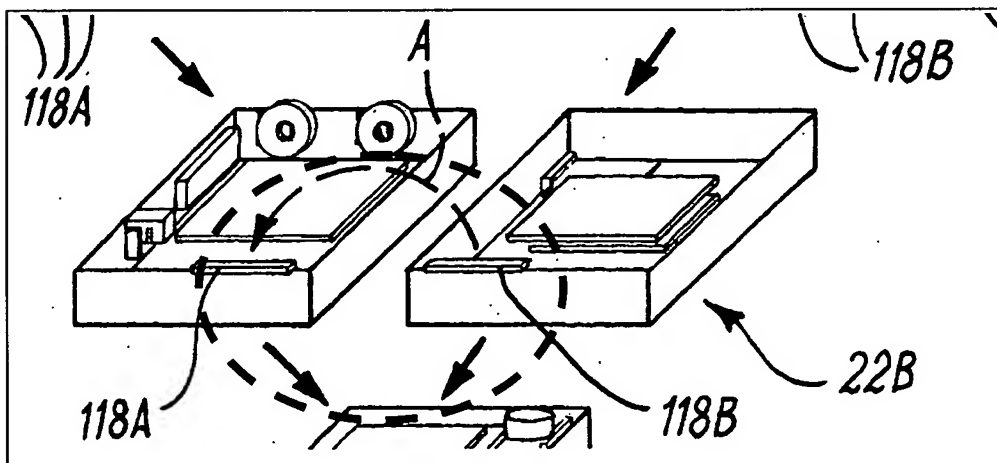
For example, a portion of Fig. 4 is shown below wherein it can clearly be seen that the circuitry element 10 is connected to the connector structure 118 (see circled portion).



For example, a portion of Fig. 6 is shown below wherein it can clearly be seen that the circuitry element 10A is connected to the connector structure 118A (see circled portion).



For example, another portion of Fig. 6 is shown below wherein it can clearly be seen that the connectors 118A and 118B provide an electrical connection between the covers 22A and 22B (see circled portion).



Therefore, in view of the above, a person of ordinary skill in the art would readily appreciate that an "integral electrical connector structure" is supported in the specification through implicit disclosure. Applicants note that MPEP § 2163(I)(B) does not require in *haec verba*, but instead **requires** that the limitations added be supported in the specification through express, **implicit**, or inherent disclosure (emphasis added). Because the MPEP does not require explicit support in the specification, the implicit disclosure of "integral electrical connector structure" satisfies the written description requirement under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112.

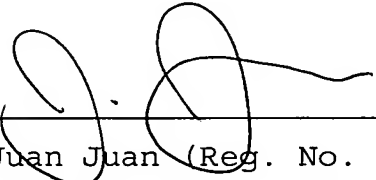
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-20 and 33-35 be withdrawn for at least the reasons stated above.

Claim 36 has been added above to above to further claim the features recited therein.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge deposit account 50-1924 for any fee deficiency. Should any unresolved issue remain, the examiner is invited to call applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Appl. No.: 10/603,913
Reply to Office Action of: 11/24/2009

Respectfully submitted,



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2/22/2010
Date

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